

House Study Bill 188 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON MILLER)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to stipends for the mental health professional
2 shortage area program.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 135.180, subsection 3, Code 2015, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. a. The program shall provide stipends to support
4 psychiatrist positions with an emphasis on securing and
5 retaining medical directors at community mental health centers,
6 providers of mental health services to county residents
7 pursuant to a waiver approved under section 225C.7, subsection
8 3, Code 2011, and hospital psychiatric units that are located
9 in mental health professional shortage areas.

10 b. The program shall provide stipends to support psychiatric
11 positions at nonprofit agencies licensed under chapter 135H
12 that provide outpatient mental health services if at least
13 fifty percent of the outpatient clients are covered under the
14 medical assistance program established in chapter 249A.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 This bill relates to stipends for the mental health
19 professional shortage area program.

20 The mental health professional shortage area program
21 provides funding to agencies to assist with the recruitment
22 and retention of mental health professionals in medically
23 underserved areas of Iowa. The program provides stipends to
24 support psychiatrist positions with an emphasis on securing and
25 retaining medical directors at community mental health centers,
26 providers of mental health services to county residents, and
27 hospital psychiatric units that are located in mental health
28 professional shortage areas.

29 The bill provides that the program shall provide stipends to
30 support psychiatric positions at nonprofit agencies licensed
31 under Code chapter 135H (psychiatric medical institutions for
32 children) that provide outpatient mental health services if at
33 least 50 percent of the outpatient clients are covered under
34 the medical assistance program established in Code chapter
35 249A. "Medical assistance" is defined in Code section 249A.2

H.F. _____

1 to mean payment of all or part of the costs of the care and
2 services made in accordance with Tit. XIX of the federal Social
3 Security Act and authorized pursuant to Code chapter 249A.